



**One No Trump
By Warren Watson**

Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club

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<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/Workshops/1NT-BF.pdf>

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1NT is a balanced 15-17 points

A. What is balanced?

Balanced is no singletons or voids.

Hands with two strong doubletons that are not 5-4 in the majors are effectively balanced and may be opened No Trump.

If there is one doubleton, it does not need to be stopped, two doubletons do.

B. Summary of Balanced Hands

12 - 14	Open 1 of a suit and rebid 1NT.
15 - 17	Open 1NT.
18 - 19	Open 1 of a suit and jump in No Trump.
20 - 21	Open 2NT (all suits need not be stopped).
22 - 24	Open 2♦ and rebid 2NT.
25 - 27	Open 2♦ and rebid 3NT.
28+	Open 2♦ and rebid 4NT.

C. Basic System Over No Trump

1NT	Stayman
2♣	Promises a 4-card major, (could be 5-4 in the majors also)
Jacoby Transfers	
2♦	Transfer to ♥'s. Partner bids 2♥ or superaccepts bidding 3♥.
2♥	Transfer to ♠'s. Partner bids 2♠ or superaccepts bidding 3♠.
Minor Suit Transfer	
2♠	Weak hand (0-4 usually) and a six-card minor
	Transfer to 3♣ which will be passed or corrected to 3♦ to be passed.
2NT	8-9 invitational no four-card or longer major
Invitational Minor Bid	
3♣	6 ♣'s, 6-8 HCP's 2 of top 3 honours, no outside Ace or King
3♦	6 ♦'s, 6-8 HCP's 2 of top 3 honours, no outside Ace or King
3NT	10-15 no four-card or longer major
4♣	Gerber, Ace Ask
Texas Transfers	
4♦	Transfer to 4♥
4♥	Transfer to 4♠
4NT	16-17 Quantitative asking partner to pass with a minimum (15 to a bad 16) bid 6NT with a maximum (good 16 to 17)
6NT	18-19 Small Slam
5NT	20-21 Grand Slam Force asking partner to: bid 6NT with a minimum (15 to a bad 16) bid 7NT with a maximum (good 16 to 17)
7NT	22+ Grand Slam

D. What is a Good 16?

- 16 with a five-card suit
- 16 with Ten's and nine's
- Not 4 triple 3 (a Flat Hand)

E. Points for Game and Slam:

What is the Easiest Way to Remember the Above Chart?

Game	25	Slam	33	Grand Slam	37
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Invite when you need partner to have a maximum and put him there if he has enough with a minimum and not enough for a higher milestone if a maximum.

F. Pigeon Holes

When Partner Opens 1NT, Place your hand in the following slots:

0-7 Find the safest part-score

8-9 Invitational

10-15 Game Going

16+ Slamish

G. Golden Fit

A golden fit is defined as any suit in which you and your partner have a combined 8 cards or longer. When a golden fit exists, distribution is counted.

Points = HCP's + Distribution Points

H. Distribution Points

	Long Trump Hand Points	Dummy Points
	Or 3 trump in dummy	4 trump in dummy
Doubleton	1	1
Singleton	2	3
Voids	3	5

When a golden fit exists in a major, one tends to play in the major.

When no Golden Fit exists, one tends to play in No Trump.

Furthermore, when game is sought, one often plays 3NT when a Golden Fit exists in a minor because nine tricks in No Trump are usually easier than 11 tricks in a minor which needs around 29 points.

I. Wasted Points

Wasted Points occur when an honour occurs in shortness or when an honour is opposite shortness in partner's hand. These holdings are wasted:

- Singleton King, Queen or Jack (Honour stiff, dry or frozen), Doubleton Queen or Jack (Qx or Jx), Tripleton Jack (Jxx).
- If partner has a void, the Ace, King, Queen and Jack in that suit are wasted and not worth their usual value in points. The Opponents may grab their winners in side suits before you ever get pitches (discards or sluffs) on that suit.
- If partner has a singleton, the King, Queen and Jack in that suit are wasted and worthless.
- If partner has a doubleton, the Queen and Jack in that suit are wasted and worthless.

J. Length Points

Length points are usually not counted until the suit is known to be accessible. Can partner even get to the fifth or sixth card? Counting both length and shortness points may lead to problems in re-evaluation. You may over-value your hand.

The fifth and sixth card in a long suit are worth one extra point each. The seventh and eighth cards are worth 3 points each.

K. Growth Points

Growth points are considered and your hand grows in value when you find out you have a Golden Fit and not until then. Until you know you and your partner have a Golden Fit and are going to play in that fit, you only count High Card Points (HCP). As soon as you have a Golden Fit, you re-evaluate your hand counting distribution and place the contract appropriately.

Hands are evaluated and re-evaluated at each chance to bid depending on what the opponents and partner bid.

Hands grow in value when:

- RHO (Right Hand Opponent) and not LHO have the outstanding points.
- You have good (Golden Fit or better) fits with one or all of partner's suits.
- Wasted points are opposite partner's No Trump bid or partner's suit.

Hands Decrease in Value when:

- There is a pre-empt. You will get bad breaks when an opponent pre-empts.
- Queens and Jacks are worthless in side suits when partner pre-empted.

L. Stayman Responses

Stayman Bid (directly after 1NT)	Only Possible Responses		
	No 4-card Major	4 ♥'s and Maybe 4♠'s	4♠'s and No 4 ♥'s
2♦	2♦	2♥	2♠

M. Stayman Rebids

	8-9	10-15
After 2♦ response:		
Rebid Notrump	2NT	3NT
Bid a Major shows 5-4	2M	3M
New Suit is usually 5-cards	Two-Level	Three-Level
After 2♥ response:		
4 ♥'s (Golden Fit)	3♥	4♥
Less than 4 ♥'s	2NT	3NT
New Suit is usually 5-cards and denies ♥ fit	n/a	Three-Level
After 2♠ response:		
4 ♠'s (Golden Fit)	3♠	4♠
Less than 4 ♠'s	2NT	3NT
New Suit is usually 5-cards and denies ♠ fit	n/a	Three-Level

Note: "m" stands for minor, ♣'s or ♦'s and "M" stands for Major, ♥'s or ♠'s.

N. Jacoby Transfer Responses

Transfer Bid (directly after 1NT)	Only Possible Responses	
	Routine Response	Superacceptance
2♦	2♥	3♥
2♥	2♠	3♠

O. Major Superacceptance

- When partner uses a Jacoby Transfer.
- Bid the transfer suit at the three-level.
- Showing: 17 HCP's
4 trump
Not 4triple3

1NT 2♦

3♥

1NT 2♥

3♠

- Superacceptance tells partner to count distribution

P. Jacoby Transfer Rebids

One makes a transfer into a five card major and explains one's hand on the rebid.

- Transferring shows five in the major.

Rebid With:	8-9	10-15
Five of the Major	2NT	3NT
Six of the Major	3M	4M
New Suit is a five-card suit	Two-level	Three-level

B. Another way to look at it

If the rebid is No Trump, you are asking partner to correct to the Major with 3 or 4 cards in that major because the Golden Fit needs 3. With a minimum, he corrects to 3M and with a maximum, he corrects to 4M.

If the rebid is the Major, the contract is set to the Major because the Golden Fit needs 2 cards from partner which is guaranteed from partner's No Trump Opening.

For Example:

1N 2♦
2♥ ??

P	5 ♥'s	0-7 HCP's (Just HCP's not distribution)
2NT	5 ♥'s	8-9 HCP's
New Suit		at the three-level
		10+
		2-suited with 5♥'s "choose game P"
		Or looking for a slam
3♥	6 ♥'s	8-9 Points (HCP's + distribution)
3NT	5 ♥'s	10-15 HCP's
4♥	6 ♥'s	10-15 Points (HCP's + distribution)

Q. *Gerber*

1. ONTO Over No Trump Openings or
2. DONT Directly over No Trump (first or last bid is no trump then 4♣ is
Gerber)

I prefer 1. But either works. One must just agree with partner which one.

1NT	4♣
4♦	0 or 4 Aces
4♥	1 Ace
4♠	2 Aces
4NT	3 Aces

After you ask for Aces, 5♣ asks for Kings but you always must ask for Aces first.

Asking for Kings does not promises that the partnership has all the Aces because one can still sign off in 5NT.

1NT	4♣
4?	5♣
5♦	0 or 4 Kings
5♥	1 King
5♠	2 Kings
5NT	3 Kings

R. Higher Notrumps

Stayman:

2NT	3♣	2♣	2♦	2♣	2♦
		2NT	3♣	3NT	4♣

Transfer to ♥'s:

2NT	3♦	2♣	2♦	2♣	2♦
		2NT	3♦	3NT	4♦
2NT	4♦	2♣	2♦		
		2NT	4♦		

Transfer to ♠'s:

2NT	3♥	2♣	2♦	2♣	2♦
		2NT	3♥	3NT	4♥
2NT	4♥	2♣	2♦		
		2NT	4♥		

Gerber:

2NT	4♣	2♣	2♦	2♣	2♦
		2NT	4♣	3NT	5♣